Denial of foreign exchange under E.T.S. to delegates who attended XIII World Festival of youth and students in DPR Korea

2060. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an Indian Delegation attended the XIII World Festival of Youth and Students in Pyongyang in D.P.R. Korea;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a large number of delegates were denied Foreign Exchange which they were entitled under the 'Foreign Travel Scheme' (FTS);

(c) whether Government are aware that this caused great inconvenience to the delegates at Pyongyang; and

(d) if so, what were the reasons for denial of FTS to the delegates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The Government of India had permitted 352 delegates from India to participate in the XIII World Festival of Youth and Students held in Pyongyang in DPR Korea during 1st to 8th July, 1989 and had released foreign exchange worth US $ 72,300 for this purpose.

(b) No specific instance has been brought to the notice of the Government where the delegates were denied FTS facility.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Criteria of income tax assessment of an assessee

2061. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the tax assessment on the income of an assesee is made generally on the submission of voluntary returns; and

(b) if so, in how many cases the voluntary returns have been subjected to scrutiny in case of the assessees whose income were shown to be above Rupees 5 lakhs during the last financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) From the financial year 1988-89, the summary assessment scheme (which was previously limited to cases with returned income upto Rs. 2 lakhs) was extended to all income groups irrespective of the quantum of the returned income. However, keping in view the available manpower resources, a small percentage of the cases in every income group is selected for making assessments after due scrutiny and investigation.

(b) During the financial year 1988-89, assessments were made after scrutiny in 14,475 cases where returns declaring income of Rupee 5 lakhs and above had been furnished by taxpayers.

Medical reimbursement benefit to employees of nationalised banks

2062. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the officers of State Bank of India are enitled to full medical reimbursement;

(b) if so, whether the Officers of other nationalised banks are also entitled to the same benefits; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c) Even before the 14 major banks were nationalised in 1969, State Bank of India has been fully reimbursing to its officers the medical expenses incurred by them on their own treatment. The

rimbursement to them in the case of the treatment of their family members has however, been restricted to 75 per cent of the expenses incurred by them. In the nationalised banks, in terms of the understanding reached between the IBA and the officers associations of the banks, in the year 1989, which has since been accepted by the Government the reimbursement of hospitalisation expenses will be to the extent of 90 per cent for themselves and 60 per cent for members of their families. This will be in addition to the lumpsum amount payable to them for other medical expenses on the basis of a certificate. Since the industry level undertaking has been reached to which the officers associations and the bank managements are parties the Government would not like to make any departure from the understanding.

Complaint of discrimination of the agreement between Indian Banks' Association AIBOC

2063. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there are complaints of discrimination towards and curtailment of existing benefits of the Bank Officers in the recently concluded agreement between Indian Banks' Association and AIBOC; and

(b) if so, what are the details and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) Except for minor rationalisation in matters like medical leave, reimbursement of hospitalisation charges in connection with maternity and class|mode of travel on duty, etc., by certain officers, there is no curtailment of the existnig benefits of bank officers in the understanding reached between the Indian Banks' Associaiton and the bank officers' associations which has been accepted by the Government recently.

Notice received by office of the development commissioner (Handicrafts) Varanasi for sales tax payment on sale of carpets

2064. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a final notice for payment of sals tax on the sale of carpets produced by the trainees for the year 1983-84. and 1984-85, amounting to lakhs of rupees was received by the Varanasi Office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts);

(b) whether it is a fact that sale proceeds were received in full from private parties but were deposited in part and that accounts regarding amounts due and sales tax chargeable thereon have not been maintained; and

(c) if so, what action is being taken or proposd to be taken in this regard so as to fix responsibility?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (KUM. SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Yes, Sir. Notice for payment of sales tax on the sale of carpets produced by the trainees has been received as per details given below:

Received on 15th April 1988.

for 1983-84—Rs. 1,50,000|-

Received on 31st May 1989 for 1984-85— Rs. 3,36,389.52.

(b) Sales realisations deposited in full as per records.

(c) Cases are under review with the Sales Tax Commissioner, Varanasi. Hence the question of fixing the responsibility does not arise.

Non-functioning of carpet weaving training centres in Uttar Pradesh

2065. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a majority of Carpet Weaving Training Centres in